

## The Evening World

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## THE FRANCHISE TAX SUSTAINED.

Wall street has "advance information" that the decision of the United States Supreme Court to be handed down some day this month is adverse to the New York corporations which have contested the State's franchise tax. The result is not surprising, though the "news leak" may be. The decision simply confirms the unanimous decision of our Court of Appeals as to the constitutionality and validity of this law.

The Ford Franchise Tax law was passed in the spring of 1899, as the result of an agitation started and sustained by The World, of which Gov. Roosevelt availed himself in practically forcing the bill through the Legislature in the face of the opposition of Senator Platt, Mr. Odell and their clients the corporations. In support of this measure The World secured within a few days a petition signed by 20,000 taxpayers, representing every large city in the State. It sent on a special train to Albany the delegates of fourteen commercial and other organized bodies of this city, having a membership of 110,000 and representing \$80,000,000 of capital, to release the Ford bill from the Assembly committee in which the Platt-Odell machine had it "held up." The bill was reported, and passed triumphantly.

In 1903 Gov. Odell sent a special message to the Legislature declaring this law to be "inequitable" and recommending in substance that it be repealed and that street corporations be taxed instead on their gross earnings. The World at once proclaimed that "the people will have to be reckoned with before this iniquitous programme can be put through." Public opinion, aroused and informed by the press, was so unmistakably favorable to the tax that the attempt to repeal it was abandoned.

The court of last resort having now sustained the law, it is expected that the corporations will pay their arrears of taxes, with interest, amounting to more than \$20,000,000.

The sub-bosses may "howl down" resolutions censuring the five Tammany Senators who helped to defeat cheaper gas, but they cannot "howl down" the censure of the people in November.

## TO IMPROVE THE MILK SUPPLY.

In the united action of over forty wholesale milk dealers there will be further benefit to New York's milk supply. These dealers have formed an organization to insure the purity of milk and its compliance with the legal standard. With former Health Commissioner E. J. Lederle as their expert they will take practical measures to secure this object.

The reputable wholesale dealers have come to realize that they as much as any one are financially harmed by the six or seven middle-men who are responsible for the milk adulteration. By the doctoring of spoiled milk and the skimming and watering of fresh milk the middlemen who profit by such practices are able to undersell the reputable sellers. The retail dealers who buy this adulterated milk are enabled to undersell their competitors who have good milk.

Good, pure milk cannot be sold at an ordinary business profit for less than five cents at the store nor delivered for less than six cents a quart. Yet cases have been known where what was called milk was sold wholesale for three and three and a half cents a quart and retailed for less than five cents.

If all spoiled and unhealthy milk were condemned and not allowed to be sold there would be a larger market for good milk and everybody would be benefited.

The facts about milk and the milk situation in The Evening World first roused the consumers and then the farmers, then the railroads and now the wholesalers. The situation has been much improved by full publicity.

It is pretty safe to bet Emperor William "never said it." He is not likely to embroil Germany and Europe in the Eastern war through fear of an imaginary "Yellow Peril." Besides, Russia isn't whipped yet.

## THE BOULEVARD TREES.

Of the hundreds of trees planted on the Boulevard by the Interborough Company almost all have died. Before the subway was built there were fine lines of healthy trees growing in the open spaces between the Boulevard driveways and surface car tracks. By its contract with the city the subway company was required to replace the trees destroyed with other healthy, growing trees.

This contract has not been faithfully carried out. Many of the trees were in a bad condition at the time they were planted, and the subway company apparently took the view that any kind of tree would fulfil the contract and that they would "live or die" in broken macadam and subway clay as well as in the good earth in which they were originally planted.

This is not a large matter financially, but the city authorities should insist on the Interborough Company, which has succeeded to the original subway contract, carrying out this provision. There are too few places in New York where there are trees, and the preservation of those on the Boulevard were provided for in the contract, and the provision should be faithfully executed.

The People's Corner.  
Letters from Evening World Readers

Yes.  
To the Editor of The Evening World:  
A gentleman takes a young lady to a ball. In the course of the evening, another young man should ask the lady for a dance, would it be proper for the young lady to accept the dance without either referring him to the friend who has brought her there or without asking his permission? ELEANOR A.

Vagrancy Persecution.  
To the Editor of The Evening World:  
The City of New York upholds to-day a system of injustice that Russia with its many evils would not tolerate. I refer to the Vagrancy Act, and the power vested in the mendicancy bureau of the Charity Organization. The Declaration of Independence deliberately states our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and the moment you deprive or attempt to deprive a man of these essentials by the creation of laws that have no vestige of logical deduction for their basis, you assail the sacredness of the declaration and reduce it to a meaningless jumble of words.

By what stretch or distortion of common reasoning can one accuse a blind man or a cripple a vagrant because he strives to exist by peddling? Does the fact that his very

hearted man or tender-hearted woman and he or she may hand him a coin, and refuse to take anything in return, constitute no visible means of support? FAIR PLAY.

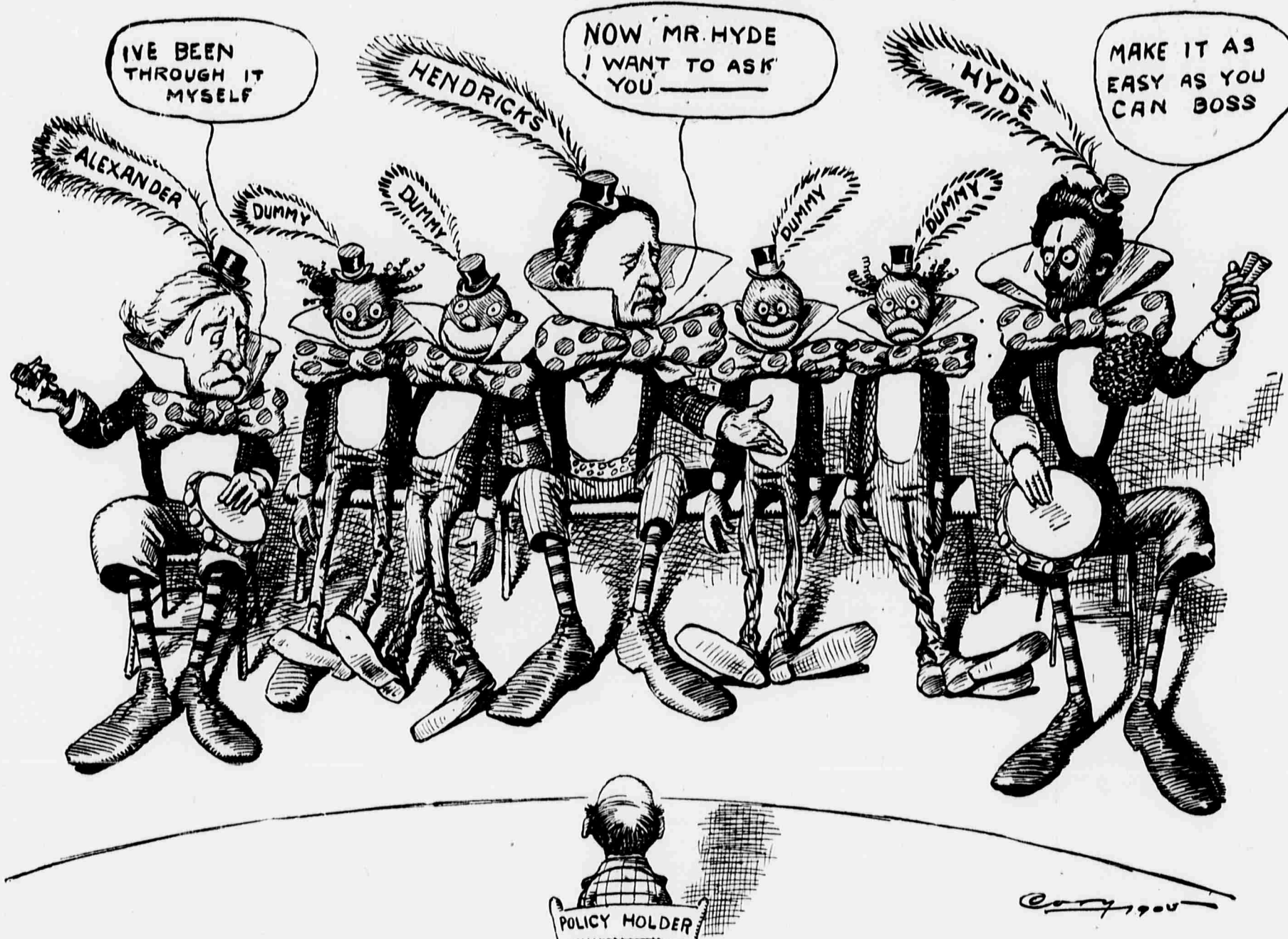
Restrainted Immigration.  
To the Editor of The Evening World:  
A correspondent suggests that the Government give the money used for the navy to the poor and starving. I do not agree with this, however. Instead of doing this the Government should go to the bottom of the trouble and be more strict in regard to immigration. If they kept out of our country such persons as tend to quack undesirable citizens we would not have thousands of starving men, women and children. AMERICAN.

June 15.  
To the Editor of The Evening World:  
What is the date that marks the formal opening of the "straw hat season"? LOUISE S.

To Increase Height.  
To the Editor of The Evening World:  
Please tell me how to increase my height, as this will greatly benefit both me and my short people. S. B.

## Mr. Bones Hendricks and the Equitable End Men.

By J. Campbell Cory.



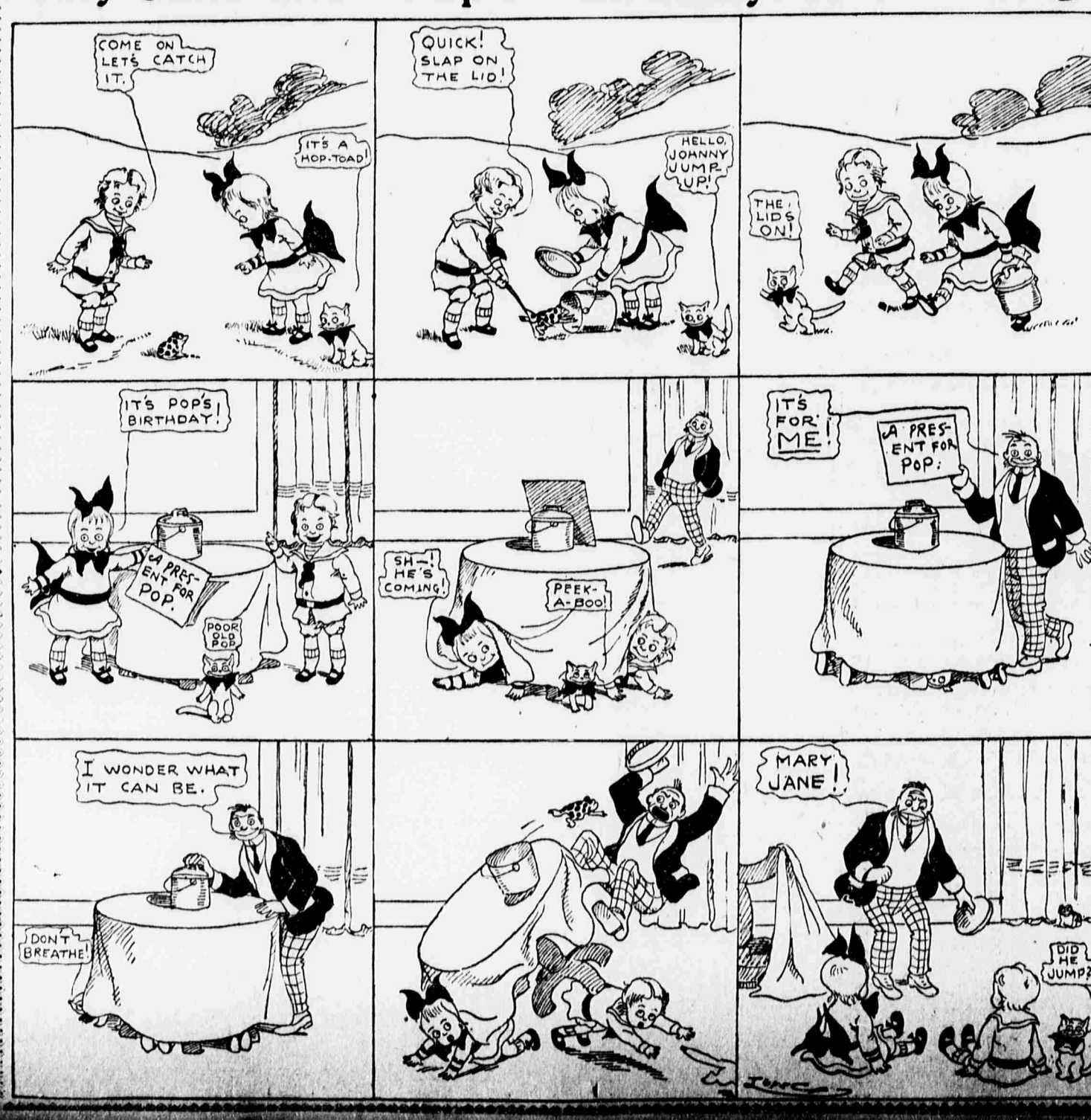
## The Man Higher Up.

By Martin Green.

"I'd like to go fishing," sighed the Clear Store Man.  
"I'd like to go fishing myself," agreed the Man Higher Up. "In my own way. Most men who get a yen for fishing spend considerable time in hunting up a place where there are fish. For mine, the horny-handed fishermen of commerce who swipe the fishy deacon of the deep for the cash he gets out of the job can have it all."  
"Probably I'm a bum sportsman, but I never could see the sense in going out in a boat, sitting in the hot sun, hitting a bottle at frequent intervals and yanking up fish from their natural element. They say that fish you catch yourself taste sweeter than fish somebody else catches. This is the excuse for some."  
"There is joy in fishing when it is done for purposes of rest and enjoyment. But most fishermen come back from a day at luring ocean or river residents so tired that they can hardly take their shoes off. They spend \$19 worth of energy and get blisters on their hands accumulating the material for a couple of fishbills."

"The proper way to go fishing is to find somebody who likes to fish in a manual labor way and get him interested. Then pack up a lunch basket with all the delicacies of the season and order a keg of beer. Have the lunch and the beer and a cake of ice moved to the bank of some purling brook or gentle river."  
"Tuck the keg of beer, put it on a rock and place the cake of ice on top of it. Swing a hammock between two trees within easy reaching distance of the keg, place the lunch basket on the other side and climb into the hammock."  
"Open a good book and read, punctuating the perusal of the tale with reaches of the right hand for the keg and of the left for the lunch basket. After a time drop the book and swing gently in the breeze, listening to the leaves in the trees whispering one to another. Finally go to sleep."  
"But that wouldn't be catching fish," said the Clear Store Man.  
"Of course not," replied the Man Higher Up. "That's what you take the other fellow for."

## Mary Jane and "Pop's" Birthday. By F. G. Long.



## Mrs. Nagg and Mr.—

By Roy L. McCardell

"M" R. and Mrs. Stryver have gone to the races in an automobile. A horse that won't has a good time in this life! I don't envy her, for I will do my duty, no matter how I am neglected, but all I do say is that Mrs. Stryver has a good time and is treated like as if she was a queen, while I may sit in the house till I die of old age and you never take me to the races in an automobile!

"You will get a machine and take me, you say? Oh, it is too late now. I wouldn't have that stuck-up Mrs. Stryver think I was imitating her if you were to get down on your knees to me with an automobile in your hand."

"The last time I was in an automobile with you you let the man think it was wrong to gamble, because those horrid bookmakers never give you back your money even if you tell them afterward that you made a mistake and intended to bet on the winner."

"When you used to take me to the races I have always picked out the horses that would win. But I think it is wrong to gamble, because those horrid bookmakers never give you back your money even if you tell them afterward that you made a mistake and intended to bet on the winner."

"Amanda Scaddaday has an infallible system, only she doesn't bet on it. She shuts her eyes and jabs a pin through her programme, and the name of the horse the pin goes through is likely to be the winner."

"Oh, don't sneer, Mr. Nagg; I saw Amanda Scaddaday do that with my own eyes one day and the name of the horse she put the pin through was the name of the horse that came in fourth. And another time she put the pin through the name of a horse when her eyes were shut and that horse would have won, everybody said, only it was scratched. But whether the pin Amanda Scaddaday stuck through her programme scratched him or not I don't know."

"But I think that was a ridiculous excuse, because everybody knows we were not near the horse, so how could Amanda Scaddaday have scratched him? But if ladies were running the race-tracks and not men, I am sure Amanda Scaddaday and I would have been given a lot of money, for the horse would have won, a cross-eyed man sitting next to told us so."

"But if anybody scratched him; that is, actually scratched him to hurt him, it wasn't Amanda Scaddaday, and that I could prove."

"I always get so excited at the races, especially when I see a horse which I have bet on, only I think it is wicked to bet unless you are sure of winning, but you are sure of winning at the races, don't you?"

"Oh, don't deny it, Mr. Nagg. You mean to say that if I win with a horse, my automobile will break down and that it will rain on the day I win? That means thing is so envious and hateful!"

A Vest-Pocket Wonder  
HOW often is it that things we see and handled many times in a day are seldom thought of? How few of those who possess a watch have ever thought of what is expected of it and the work it has to do, says a writer in Pearson's Weekly.

This little machine is expected to work day and night without stopping (as our pulse has to work from birth till death). We expect it to show us the right time in winter and summer, and in whatever position it is placed.

Now, if we open an ordinary gentleman's Geneva horizontal watch we can see the balance about five-eighths of an inch in diameter, which gives a three-quarters turn at every tick of the watch, so that the little pin seen in the balance travels at every tick of the watch about one and a half inches; and as a watch of that description has to make 18,000 vibrations in an hour, the little pin has to make a journey of about ten miles every twenty-four hours.

Now, well-made watches are generally expected to go for two years, so the little pin in the balance would have made the long journey of 7,300 (English) miles.

The balance in a lever watch makes generally one turn and a half at every tick and therefore travels double the distance—viz., 14,600. To be able to accomplish this all the materials must be of the best and hardest; the oil also must be of the best and so fine and fluid that one drop will suffice to oil 200 pivots (or bearings), and keep good in the watch for at least two years.

Equally astonishing are the means by which a watch is regulated. This is done by lengthening or shortening the fine spiral spring, generally known as the hairspring.

If a watch should be half a minute slow a day the hairspring is the 14,600th part of a second too long. Should a watch be only a minute a week too slow it would then be the 98,000th part of a second too long.

All that is expected of the user of a watch is that it is regularly wound up and is not too carelessly treated. Everything also has to be left to the mechanism of the watch and to the clever skill of the watchmaker.

THE WOMAN HEART.  
SHE never said "I love you not," but when she was all fearful that she loved too much; she never took her hand from yours—but then when most she craved its touch. She never laughed at you but when she felt Would be too tender. Never turned away Save when each impulse urged her once again To listen and to stay. A woman's heart is like a witch's prayer—To be read backward and its craft defied. Ah, judge us not by those poor lies we dare, But by the truths we hide. —Theodosia Garrison in The Twentieth Century Home.